

Expedited Procedure Under 37 CFR 1.116

Application No. 10/586,277

Paper Dated: August 12, 2011

In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of May 12, 2011

Attorney Docket No. 3135-062115

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-17. (Cancelled).

18. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for cleaning surfaces fouled with chewing gum, comprising:

a mobile support structure,

at least one supply container for cleaning agent,

a plurality of spray units coupled to the supply container for spraying with the cleaning agent a surface for cleaning fouled with chewing gum, wherein each spray unit is adapted to spray the same part of the surface at least once during displacement of the support structure, and

at least one pump for feeding cleaning agent under pressure to at least one spray unit,

wherein at least a front spray unit, as seen in the direction of displacement of the support structure, lies at least substantially in front of another, rear spray unit,

and further wherein the apparatus comprises a pressure-generating mechanism for bringing the cleaning agent under pressure such that the pressure of the cleaning agent sprayed on the surface for cleaning fouled with chewing gum lies substantially between 300 and 750 bar, and that the apparatus comprises a mechanism for heating the cleaning agent such that the temperature of the cleaning agent sprayed on the surface for cleaning fouled with chewing gum amounts to a minimum of 115 degrees Celsius.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein at least some of the number of spray units are adapted to spray the surface for cleaning in a substantially circular spray pattern.

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20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the spray units are connected rotatably to the support structure.

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the apparatus is provided with at least two spray sets, each provided with at least two spray units, wherein the spray sets, as seen in a direction of displacement of the support structure, are positioned one behind the other.

22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the apparatus is provided with a mechanism connected to the support structure for suctioning up cleaning agent applied to the surface.

23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the apparatus is provided with a mechanism connected to the support structure for brushing the surface for cleaning.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein the ~~brushing means are~~ mechanism connected to the support structure for brushing the surface is at least partially formed by at least one brush roller.

25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 24, wherein at least one brush roller is positioned between the front spray unit and the rear spray unit.

26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 23, further including a shielding element, wherein the spray units and the brush means are at least partially shielded by the shielding element.

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27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the apparatus is provided with a mechanism for regulating the temperature, pressure and/or the quantity of cleaning agent to be applied to the surface for cleaning.

28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the relative orientation of the spray units and the support structure can be changed.

29. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the support structure is formed by a vehicle.

30. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the apparatus is provided with a mechanism for guiding the support structure in a predefined path.

31. (Withdrawn) A vehicle for cleaning surfaces fouled with chewing gum, wherein the vehicle is provided with at least one supply container for cleaning agent, a plurality of spray units for spraying with the cleaning agent a surface for cleaning fouled with chewing gum, wherein each spray unit is adapted to spray the same part-surface at least once during displacement of the support structure, and at least one pump for feeding cleaning agent taken up from the supply container under pressure to at least one spray unit, wherein at least a front spray unit, as seen in the direction of displacement of the support structure, lies at least substantially in front of another, rear spray unit,
and further wherein

the vehicle comprises pressure-generating means for bringing the cleaning agent under pressure such that the pressure of the cleaning agent sprayed on the surface for cleaning fouled with chewing gum lies substantially between 300 and 750 bar, and that the vehicle comprises heating means for heating the cleaning agent such that the temperature of the cleaning agent sprayed on the surface for cleaning fouled with chewing gum amounts to a minimum of 115 degrees Celsius.

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32. (Withdrawn) A method for cleaning surfaces fouled with chewing gum, comprising the steps of:

- a) causing displacement of a support structure having at least one front spray unit and at least one rear spray unit,
- b) heating a cleaning agent to a temperature of at least 115 degrees Celsius,
- c) spraying a part-surface at least once with the heated cleaning agent under pressure using said at least one front spray unit, and
- d) spraying the same part-surface at least once with the heated cleaning agent under pressure using said at least one rear spray unit,

wherein the pressure of the heated cleaning agent during spray on the surface as according to step c) and step d) lies substantially between 300 and 750 bar.

33. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the cleaning agent is sprayed by the front spray unit and/or the rear spray unit onto the part-surface at a pressure of at least 310 bar.

34. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the cleaning agent sprayed by the front spray unit and/or the rear spray unit in the direction of the surface for cleaning has a temperature of at least 120 degrees Celsius, and preferably at least 150 degrees Celsius.